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SR's

Chief, COAPS

Assistant Director for Reports and Estimates

CIA Situation Reports

References: a. Memo, subject as above, dated 18 November 1949, from D/I, GSUSA to DCI

b. Memo, subject as above, dated 13 December 1948, from D/CI to Special Assistant to the Secretary of State for Research and Intelligence

1. This office has considered the reference memoranda at a meeting of the ORR Estimates Production Board, and has reached the following conclusions regarding CIA Situation Reports:

a. The S/R series should not be terminated with respect to the following listed countries:

- (1) Bulgaria
- (2) Czechoslovakia
- (3) Hungary
- (4) Finland
- (5) Poland
- (6) Yugoslavia
- (7) Indochina
- (8) Thailand
- (9) Cyprus

b. In addition to the foregoing, the following listed SR's in an advanced stage of coordination with the IAC agencies should be published:

- (1) Germany
- (2) France
- (3) Costa Rica

c. The NIS program is being compiled on a "section" basis rather than on a country basis. It will be many months before ~~completed~~ NIS's will be available for any single country. Consequently the S/R series is the only currently available medium of publication wherein all factors pertinent to United States security interests for a given country are brought together to provide a composite analysis of the significance of that country to the United States.

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d. The present difficulties arising out of ID/CSUSA's limited facilities could be resolved by:

(1) Relieving ID/CSUSA of the necessity to compile contributions to SR's. In this case, ORE would prepare the portion of the S/R pertaining to the ground forces and the strategic significance of the country concerned, from a military viewpoint. In those instances where NIS contributions from ID/CSUSA are available, ORE would utilize such material for this purpose.

(2) Limiting ID/CSUSA comment solely to the ground force aspect of the S/R in each case. ORE most certainly desires ID/CSUSA's comments on CIA estimates which are so clearly within the field of responsibility of the Department of the Army. It is noted however that the average length of the section devoted to purely military factors, including Army, Navy and Air, is about eight pages.

2. It is understood that some discussion of this problem has taken place in the NIS Committee. The NIS Committee decided that each member would discuss this problem in terms of reference b with his chief.

3. In view of the foregoing, it is recommended that the substance of paragraph 1 e above be presented to the D/I, CSUSA, as an alternative to his proposal in reference a.

4. In the event that informal discussions are held with ID/CSUSA representatives on this question, this office requests that it be invited to participate.

5. With respect to paragraph 1 a above, it should be noted that countries (1) through (8) in addition to being regarded as essential from an ORE viewpoint, also represent a CIA commitment to the Department of the Navy.

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THEODORE BARBITT

S/PP, [REDACTED] pgt

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